

Reading and Writing Developmental Stages Observation Checklist

The observation checklist can be used to record individual children's development in reading and writing over the course of a year. Use the spaces provided to note benchmark behaviors (e.g., 9/10/03 Makes horizontal scribbles). This document can be found in the blackline masters.

Student _____

Teacher _____

A=Pre-K

Date Observed	Reading	Explore Words Placement	Date Observed	Writing	Examples
_____	Engages in conversations	A1 Easy	_____	Draws	
_____	Participates in lap reading		_____	Scribbles	
_____	Has experience with print and books	A1 Med	_____	Colors	
_____	Holds books		_____	Produces single "words" or pictures	
_____	Pages through books	A1 Hard	_____	Makes horizontal scribbles	
_____	Talks while looking at books	A2 Easy	_____	Forms random letters	DALTB PPLSWM
_____	Appears comfortable with books	A2 Med	_____	Repeats shapes	
_____	Tells story using pictures	A2 Hard	_____	Draws pictures with letters	0000000
_____	Discriminates words in a sentence	A3 Easy	_____	Creates multiple pictures or "events"	MWWMWA
_____	Memorizes stories	A3 Med	_____	Shows evidence of understanding logical sequence of events (e.g., pictures, "words")	
_____	Recognizes some letters	A3 Hard	_____	Copies letters	AA A A AH
_____	Recognizes some common words	A4 Easy	_____	Copies environmental print	MC DONALD
_____	Generally connects print and spoken words	A4 Med	_____	Tells stories to go with representations (e.g., pictures, "words")	
		A4 Hard	_____	Understands that letters have meaning	

Reading and Writing Developmental Stages Observation Checklist

B= Kinder. (continued)

Date Observed	Reading	Explore Words Placement	Date Observed	Writing	Examples
	Shows early phonemic awareness	B1 Easy		Understands that letters represent sounds	P
	Knows that text does not change from one reading to the next	B1 Med		Copies words	I LIKE KI
	Has concept of word			Uses letters to communicate	
	Shows phonemic awareness	B1 Hard		Uses some initial consonants to represent words	M NM S
	Knows alphabet letters and sounds	B2 Easy		Uses initial consonants regularly to represent words	prd
	Recognizes high-frequency words	B2 Med		Uses early phonetic spelling	My fdy
	Shows increasing vocabulary	B2 Hard		Shows evidence of sentence structure	
	Matches spoken words with text			Shows evidence of editing (e.g., self-corrections, rewriting)	I edit bks
	Represents final consonants	B3 Easy		Uses multiple sentences to convey message	cjt
	Consistently reads own writing			Demonstrates in writing a sense of story	I like T.
	Perceives patterns in print	B3 Med		Represents final consonants	My Name
	Retells stories in own words	B3 Hard		Represents some medial consonants	Ba14n
	Reads aloud to self	B4 Easy		Places spaces between words some of the time	
	Makes predictions about stories	B4 Med		Represents vowel sounds	
	Notices punctuation	B4 Hard		Places spaces between words regularly	
				"Writes" independently	
				Uses both uppercase and lowercase letters	
				Uses inventive spelling much of the time	
				Understands that a sequence of letters represents a sequence of sounds	
				Correctly spells some high-frequency words	

Date Observed	Reading	Explore Words Placement	Date Observed	Writing
	Consistently recognizes patterns in print	C1 Easy		Uses full inventive spelling consistently
	Uses a variety of strategies to decode unknown words	C1 Med		Demonstrates a developing understanding of spelling patterns (e.g., double letters, vowel combinations)
	Recognizes 50% of the common high-frequency words	C1 Hard		Spells many high-frequency words correctly
	Recognizes regularly spelled one- and two-syllable words			Represents initial blends
	Generally uses punctuation in reading for meaning and with inflection			Begins to adjust own rules to spelling conventions
	Recognizes whether words make sense in context	C2 Easy		Uses some punctuation
	Uses knowledge of spelling and context to decode difficult words	C2 Med		Writes many sentences (some may be run-on)
	Checks attempts to decode words against knowledge of sound-symbol relationships	C2 Hard		Shows evidence of self-correction
	Considers whether decoded words make sense in the print context			Spells decodable words
	Reads own and others' writing and suggests revisions and edits			Elaborates on ideas in writing
	Retells with accurate details and sequence	C3 Easy		Uses more conventional sentence structures
	Generally reads and understands complex sentence structure	C3 Med		Uses capitalization
	Makes predictions when reading	C3 Hard		Begins to use vowel with r
	Recognizes cause and effect			Writes in different genres
	Self-selects from a variety of genres			Uses silent e rule occasionally
	Recognizes characteristics of different genres	C4 Easy		Uses different types of sentence structures
	Reads a variety of sentence structures with comprehension and fluency	C4 Med		Spells decodable two-syllable words correctly sometimes
	Recognizes 70% of the common high-frequency words	C4 Hard		Uses personal experiences and imagination to convey ideas
	Extends or modifies stories			Incorporates beginning and subsequent events in stories
	Identifies basic story elements			Elaborates on ideas
	Articulates new information gained from reading and connects to personal experience and other text			Uses silent e rule more frequently

Note: These indicators of reading and writing development might be observed in more than one placement level.

Date Observed	Reading	Explore Words Placement	Date Observed	Writing
	Independently reads aloud unfamiliar, developmentally appropriate text with accuracy and comprehension	D1 Easy		Uses some conventional spelling patterns
	Connects the meaning between earlier and later parts of a given text	D1 Med		Edits with increased frequency
	Recognizes when interpretation of text does not make sense and rereads	D1 Hard		Writes on different topics
	Reads a variety of topics			Demonstrates early paragraphing skills
	Compares different organizational structures in text			Uses silent e rule consistently
	Tracks characters' situations and actions across time and events, in fiction and nonfiction	D2 Easy		Sequences ideas logically
	Discusses authors' differing styles, devices, and voice	D2 Med		Uses r and s blends
	Identifies literary qualities (e.g., beginnings, endings, theme development, plot, character)	D2 Hard		Uses initial three-letter blends
	Recognizes 85% of the common high-frequency words			Represents plurals with s and es
	Recognizes multisyllable words	D3 Easy		Writes coherently on topic
	Consistently uses punctuation in reading for meaning and with inflection	D3 Med		Uses hard and soft c and g appropriately
	Demonstrates ability to read and interpret different grammatical styles	D3 Hard		Uses vowel diphthongs (e.g., oi, oy, ou, ow)
	Consistently reads and understands complex word and sentence structure			Spells some digraphs correctly
	Synthesizes information from text			Spells r-controlled vowels correctly
	Increases comprehension of text through questioning and discussion			Uses capitalization rules
	Begins to analyze nonfiction authors' purpose, intention, and credibility	D4 Easy		Uses punctuation regularly
	Recognizes 100% of the common high-frequency words	D4 Med		Uses longer, more grammatical sentences
		D4 Hard		Generalizes suffixes (e.g., -ed, -es, -ing)
				Spells many vowel digraphs correctly
				Spells prefixes and suffixes correctly
				Makes most sentences flow and separates with correct punctuation
				Writes stories with a beginning, middle, and end
				Integrates development of ideas into paragraphing skills
				Spells vowel diphthongs correctly
		D4 Easy		Uses spelling rules and generalizes to multisyllabic words
		D4 Med		Understands that each syllable has a vowel
		D4 Hard		Uses spelling patterns with vowels regularly (e.g., silent e, digraphs)
				Uses different genres appropriately
				Spells most high-frequency words correctly
				Spells words with irregularities correctly (e.g., -le, silent letters)
				Writes with focus and clarity in presenting ideas

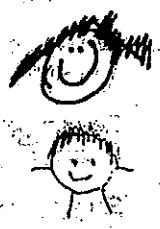
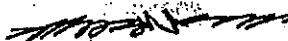
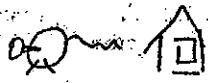
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	Appears comfortable with books	A2 Med		Repeats shapes	Q Q Q e e e o o
	Tells story using pictures	A2 Hard		Draws pictures with letters	M i N N M M
	Discriminates words in a sentence	A3 Easy		Creates multiple pictures or "events"	
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	Represents final consonants	B3 Hard		Uses multiple sentences to convey message	My Nana
	Consistently reads own writing	B4 Easy		Demonstrates in writing a sense of story	BAI 4N
	Perceives patterns in print	B4 Med		Represents final consonants	
	Retells stories in own words	B4 Hard		Represents some medial consonants	
	Reads aloud to self			Places spaces between words some of the time	
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